

The Pipeline

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CFC staff 'move mountains'

A reporter from WYMT-TV interviewed Secretary Viola Miller during the Vision 2000 meeting in Pikeville recently.



By Paula Compton – Pike Co. DCBS

PIKEVILLE – “Moving Mountains Together” was the theme of the Vision 2000 conference here April 28-30.

Approximately 400 Cabinet For Families and Children employees, community partners, and Family Resource staff joined together to discuss ways to implement the “new world” of human-service delivery.

Vision 2000 is blending services and resources, not only within our Cabinet, but also within the community. Our goal is to convey the message that our Cabinet alone cannot help our customers reach their goals. It takes the entire community and all of our talents and resources to ensure that our families and children in need become self-sufficient.

Guest speakers included retired Kentucky State Police Trooper Leo Mudd, who talked about substance abuse; Deputy Secretary Tim Jackson’s touching story of “Joy,” a CFC client with needs in many different categories; and the “mountain humor” of Dr. Mary P. Fox, retired physician in the Pike County area.

Judy Meltzer, of the Center for the Study of Social Policy in Washington, D.C., praised Kentucky’s move toward whole-family service and community involvement, saying “many states are envious” of our Family Resource and Youth Services Centers and other programs.

The conference, hosted by the Big Sandy Service Region, also provided several workshops, ranging from grant writing to dealing with sensitive issues. An “Info-Expo” allowed participants to learn more about topics such as training and technology, and also featured “Live With Miller and Jackson,” which gave staff an opportunity to talk face to face with Secretary Viola Miller and Tim Jackson.

CHS Advises Early Immunizations, Physicals



Kentucky parents are being urged by public health officials to prepare for the next school year by getting immunizations and physical examinations for their children now.

Up-to-date immunizations and physical exams are required for entry into kindergarten as well as sixth grade. (Kentucky’s Immunization Certificate and physical exam form must be used.) A second dose of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) is required for sixth grade entry for those children who have not already received it.

The yearly last-minute rush to get this done before school inconveniences children, parents, physicians, health departments and schools. The rush can be avoided if parents make appointments now, said Dr. Rice Leach, commissioner of the Department for Public Health.

Before entering school, children must be immunized against the following diseases: Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B and Hib (if under 5 years of age).

Other vaccines your child may receive are: varicella (chicken pox) and rotavirus.

Relay for Life for Cancer



The annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life, will be held in May 14-15 in Franklin County. Relay for Life raises funds through team relay walks around a track. The event also honors local survivors of cancer, and luminaries are available as memorials to cancer victims. Funds raised will go toward cancer research and prevention programs, and community education.

For more information, Franklin County Employees should call Bonnie Cox of Disability Determinations at 564-5028. For information on the event in other counties, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345.

For life-saving information on cancer, contact the American Cancer Society, or check their Web site at www.cancer.org.

April Employees of the Month Announced

By Margaret Davis Harney – CFC Communications



James Kuhn of the Department for Disability Determinations and **Virginia (Ginger) Hardin** of Community Based Services have been named the Cabinet for Families and Children's Employees of the Month for April.

Kuhn, a secretary, transferred from the Justice Cabinet to Disability Determinations in March of 1998.

Co-worker Bonnie Cox nominated him to be Employee of the Month, praising his ability to keep caseloads moving smoothly. He serves as a liaison between case-processing staff and medical consultants, and keeps cases flowing smoothly between those two staffs, Cox said, as well as between the office and the contracted transcription service. "He has the true respect of each of these entities and does his job with dedication and motivation," said Cox. "James always has a smile and a cheerful thought for everyone. It's a joy to work with him."

A graduate of Frankfort's Western Hills High School, Kuhn also attended Sullivan Business College and Kentucky State University.

Gayle Yocum, who said, "Ginger symbolizes the employee who is dedicated, maintains a professional demeanor, and is a pleasant co-worker," nominated **Hardin**.

Hardin, an administrative assistant, was also commended for her "exemplary phone etiquette."

"I have a cubicle across from Ginger, and I have watched her consistently provide courteous, efficient and professional service," Yocum said. "Due to restructuring, Ginger receives many calls that have been misdirected, but she fields them with patience and courtesy." Even when callers are unpleasant, Yocum added, Hardin remains calm, polite and helpful.

Hardin, who has 19 years service with state government, is also helpful to new staff members. She goes out of her way to assist them and make them feel welcome, Yocum said. A graduate of Franklin County High School, Hardin now lives in Lawrenceburg with her husband and two children.

CFC selects two outstanding employees each month for special recognition – one from staff working in the Human Resources Building and one from staff at First City.

For more information, or to submit a nomination, contact Charlene Nation of the Employee Services Branch, CHR-5, phone 564-7770. She will also accept nominations sent by E-mail.

Help Shape Early Childhood Development



Gov. Paul Patton has established the Initiative for Early Childhood to develop a comprehensive, long-range plan on early childhood development. Public forums are being held across the state during May to allow all citizens to share their thoughts and ideas on the plan.

Forum schedule

Owensboro – Owensboro High School – May 11, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Bowling Green – Western Kentucky University, Page Hall – May 12, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Paducah – Robert Cherry Civic Center – May 13, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Madisonville – Madisonville Community College, multi-purpose room – May 14, 10 a.m. – noon

Louisville – Metro United Way, 334 E. Broadway – May 18, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Prestonsburg – Prestonsburg Community College, Pike Technology Building – May 24, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Morehead – Carl Perkins Center – May 25, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Need For Sick Leave

Susie Miller, an employee of CFC's Community Based Services in Fulton, needs **donated sick leave**. She has been on medical leave for back surgery since January. **To donate time**, contact **Gary Brooks at 270/472-1638**.

Ruth Wilhoite, an employee of CFC Family Support also needs **donated sick leave**. She has been on medical leave due to back surgery she had in March. This is the second surgery performed on Ruth's back. She will need to be on leave for 8-9 months. **To donate time**, contact **Charlene Nation at 502/564-7770**.

Ruth Willard, an employee of CHS Division of Laboratory Services is in need of **donated sick leave**. She is currently in the hospital with bilateral pneumonia. **To donate time**, contact **Regina Hutcherson at 502/564-4446**.

State Parks Celebrate 75 Years



The Kentucky Department of Parks is celebrating its 75th anniversary with two special promotions for state park guests.

Frequent guests will be rewarded with a free night at any state resort park, subject to availability, after staying at a park lodge nine separate nights. Participants in the promotion will have a frequent-guest card stamped at checkout and can book their free night anytime after the card is filled. Cards will be distributed at travel shows and at lodge front desks.

The department is also offering a special rate for lodge rooms booked during May for stays this summer at six resort parks. The rate is \$55 plus tax, double occupancy, for Sunday through Thursday stays during June, July, August or September. The six parks are Buckhorn Lake, Carter Caves, Greenbo Lake, Kenlake, Pennyryle Forest, and Pine Mountain state resort parks.

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-255-PARK or visit the state park web site, <http://www.kystateparks.com>. For both promotions, certain conditions apply.

May is Foster Parent Appreciation Month and Older Americans Month

May is National Foster Parent Appreciation Month, and special events are planned by local offices of the Cabinet for Families and Children throughout the state in recognition of foster parents. The highlight of the month will be an appreciation day hosted by central office at the Kentucky Horse Center May 18.

Read about some of Kentucky's outstanding foster parents on the panels displayed in the lobby of the Human Resources Building, just outside the cafeteria.

May is also Older Americans Month and the Cabinet for Health Services' Office of Aging Services has special events planned to honor the more than 626,800 Kentuckians who are 60 years old and older. Gold ribbons are also being distributed throughout May. Wear a gold ribbon to honor the contributions of older Kentuckians.



Central Office Notes and Activities

- .. The American Red Cross will conduct a **blood drive** May 13, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the American Legion Post, 164 Versailles Rd., Frankfort.
- .. CFC's pledges for **Bowl for Kids Sake** have been tallied. Of the \$5,586 pledged to benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters, \$3,656 has been collected. If you still have a pledge outstanding, please turn it in as soon as possible.
- .. The next Central Office VISION 2000 meeting is scheduled for May 12 at 8:30 a.m. in the CHR Building cafeteria. Committees should be prepared to report on committee activities. Everyone plan to attend. If you have questions, call Eric Barnes at 564-3440.
- .. Linda Burke of CHS' public health has established a Fibromyalgia Support Group, which will be meeting the third Thursday of each month. Everyone is invited. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. May 20 at Highland Christian Church. For more information, call Linda Burke at 564-7213.
- .. There has been a **change in the date** for the annual March of Dimes fundraiser, **Walk America**. State employees will walk May 21; not April 16 as was previously reported. Plan now to participate.
- .. The **aerobics program** meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 5 p.m. in the cafeteria. Call Beth Bates at 564-7718 for more information.
- .. Nominations for **CFC Employees of the Month** are due by the 15th of each month. For more information, or to submit a nomination, contact Charlene Nation of the Employee Services Branch at 564-7770. She will also accept nominations sent by e-mail.

Pipeline, a weekly newsletter for employees of the Cabinets for Families and Children and Health Services, welcomes reader comments and contributions. Items for *Pipeline* are due by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday; items for intercom announcements are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday. Call (502) 564-6786 or send information to Patricia Boler at Patricia.Boler@mail.state.ky.us